



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

Office of the Administrator

800 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20591

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Dear Members of the Aviation Community:



I am delighted to present the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA's) Operational Evolution Plan (OEP), Version 5.0. The OEP continues to represent FAA's commitments for improving capacity and efficiency in the National Airspace System over the next ten years. These commitments have been generated in consultation with the leadership of the aviation community and in partnership with the Department of Defense and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

As you can see in this Executive Summary, these joint efforts are moving forward and we are making progress clarifying user needs and putting in place new technologies and new procedures to address those needs. We are already realizing the benefits of increased system capacity and efficiency as a result.

This past year has been a difficult one for our nation and for the aviation community. The flying public has had to adapt to new security activities. The aviation community has had to adapt to a tightening economic climate. When the volume of air traffic comes back, and it will, we will be ready with an advanced and flexible system that provides more choices to airlines, industry and the flying public.

This version of the OEP balances program progress with a crisper vision that emphasizes collaborative decision making, required navigation performance and shared information systems. This is particularly fitting as we approach the fifth anniversary of the National Civil Aviation Review Commission, created by the United States Congress. As a result of the commission's recommendations, it is apparent through the OEP how the FAA sets priorities and achieves performance outcomes, while accelerating user benefits and assuring that resources are sufficient and used effectively. I invite you to read more details at the OEP web site: www.faa.gov/programs/oep.

Thank you for your continued support, active participation and dedication to aviation.

Marion C. Blakey
Administrator